

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 30 as indicated below, and cancel claim 45.

1-29 (Cancelled)

30. (Presently Amended) A fluorescent particle, comprising:
a first compound selected from the group consisting of silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy) and silicon phthalocyanine bis(triethylsilyloxy); and
a second compound that is a bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy)-substituted or bis(triethylsilyloxy)-substituted phthalocyanine, naphthalocyanine, or anthranylocyanine derivative, or a bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy)-substituted or bis(triethylsilyloxy)-substituted hybrid phthalocyanine derivative,

wherein the size of said fluorescent particle is between 0.1 nm and 5000 nm, and wherein said first compound differs in structure from said second compound.

31. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said particle is a latex particle.

32. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said particle is a silica particle.

33. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound and said second compound are each bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy)-substituted compounds.

34. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon 2,3-naphthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).

35. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(triethylsilyloxy).

36. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(1,6-diphenyl-2,3-naphthalocyanine)] (2,3-naphthalocyanine) (2,3-tert-butylphthalocyanine) bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).
37. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(1,6-diphenyl-2,3-naphthalocyanine)] [di(2,3-tert-butylphthalocyanine) bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy)].
38. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(2,3-naphthalocyanine)] [di(1,4-diphenylphthalocyanine) bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy)].
39. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(1,6-diphenyl-2,3-naphthalocyanine)] diphthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).
40. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(1,6-diphenyl-2,3-naphthalocyanine)] [di(2,3-dicyanophthalocyanine)] bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).
41. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon 2,3-naphthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).
42. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said first compound is silicon phthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy), and said second compound is silicon [di(1,6-diphenylphthalocyanine)] diphthalocyanine bis(dimethylhexylvinylsilyloxy).
43. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said particle further comprises an antibody.

44. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 30, wherein said particle further comprises a nucleic acid.

45. (Cancelled herein).

46. (Previously added) A fluorescent particle according to claim 37, wherein the size of said particle is between 1 nm and 1000 nm.